## In the Claims:

- 1. (Original) A method of purifying reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  which comprises washing crystals and/or oil of reduced coenzyme Q10 with a water-soluble organic solvent or a mixed solvent composed of a water-soluble organic solvent and water to thereby remove a water-soluble impurity from the crystals and/or oil of reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$ .
- 2. (Original) The method of purifying reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  according to Claim 1,

wherein the washing of the crystals and/or oil of reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  is carried out in a state of dispersion of the crystals and/or oil of reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  in the water-soluble organic solvent or the mixed solvent composed of the water-soluble organic solvent and water.

- 3. (Original) The method of purifying reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  according to Claim 2, wherein the dispersion is caused in a state of forced flowing.
- 4. (Previously Presented) The method of purifying reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  according to Claim 1,

wherein the water-soluble organic solvent comprises at least one species selected from among alcohols, ketones, ethers, and nitriles.

- 5. (Original) The method of purifying reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  according to Claim 4, wherein the water-soluble organic solvent is ethanol.
- 6. (Previously Presented) The method of purifying reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  according to Claim 1,

wherein the washing is carried out with a mixed solvent composed of an organic solvent and water.

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7. (Original) The method of purifying reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  according to Claim 6,

wherein the washing is carried out with a mixed solvent having a water-soluble organic solvent content of not less than 5 w/w%.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of purifying reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  according to Claim 1,

wherein the water-soluble impurity is a reducing agent used for converting oxidized coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  into reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  and/or an impurity derived from a reducing agent.

9. (Original) The method of purifying reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  according to Claim 8,

wherein the reducing agent and/or the impurity derived from a reducing agent are/is hyposulfurous acid or a salt thereof and/or an impurity derived from hyposulfurous acid or a salt thereof.

10. (Original) The method of purifying reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  according to Claim 8.

wherein the reducing agent and/or the impurity derived from a reducing agent are/is ascorbic acid or a related compound thereof and/or an impurity derived from ascorbic acid or a related compound thereof.

11. (Original) The method of purifying reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  according to Claim 10,

wherein the impurity derived from ascorbic acid or a related compound thereof is oxalic acid.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of purifying reduced coenzyme Q10 according to Claim 4,

wherein the concentration of reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  during washing is not higher than 30 w/w% as expressed in terms of the weight of reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  relative to the weight of the solvent at the time of completion of the washing.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of purifying reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  according to Claim 1,

wherein reduced coenzyme Q<sub>10</sub> occurs as a form of crystals.

14. (Original) The method of purifying reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  according to Claim 13,

wherein the washing temperature is not higher than 50°C.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of purifying reduced coenzyme Q10 according to Claim 1,

wherein reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  occurs as a form of oil and the washing temperature is not lower than the melting temperature of reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$ .

16. (Original) The method of purifying reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  according to Claim 15,

wherein the washing temperature is not lower than 40°C.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of purifying reduced coenzyme Q<sub>10</sub> according to Claim 15,

wherein crystals of reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  is recovered by cooling the solution obtainable after impurity removal from the oil of reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$ .

18. (Previously Presented) The method of purifying reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  according to Claim 15,

wherein crystals of reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  is recovered by contacting seed crystals to oil of reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  obtainable after impurity removal from said oil.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of purifying reduced coenzyme Q<sub>10</sub> according to Claim 1,

wherein reduced coenzyme Q<sub>10</sub> is purified in a deoxygenated atmosphere.

20. (New) A process of purifying reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  comprising the steps of:

washing one or more of crystals of reduced coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  and oil of reduced  $Q_{10}$  with a water-soluble organic solvent or a mixed solvent composed of a water-soluble organic solvent and water;

removing a water-soluble impurity from the crystals and/or the oil into the water-soluble organic solvent or the mixed solvent composed of a water-soluble organic solvent and water; and

completing the purifying process without using a chromatographic purification step.